



For information on HAM RADIO or Our Club - CALL **466-HAMS**

### THE NEXT MRAC MEETING

Date: **Thursday - April 29, 1993**

Time: **7:30 P.M.**

Place: **Wauwatosa Savings and Loan at 75th and State in Wauwatosa**

Program: This meeting we will have Video (approx. 1/2 hour) about Nikola Tesla, who was instrumental in our extensive use of a.c. power distribution systems and a.c. motors and invented the wireless. **WHAT???** And all the time you thought it was Marconi. Come to the meeting and find out about this revelation. The video will be augmented with anecdotes by Fred Linn - W9NZF. There will also be a demonstration of a scale model of a high voltage discharge machine.

There will also be reports on the Dayton Hamvention by some of those in attendance.

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

Our Novice/Tech school started on March 31st with a nice group of fifteen and it looks like we will add a few more. I'd like to thank Dave DeFebo WB9BWP for picking up the ball again as our teacher. It sure is nice to have help to run Club events.

I will be turning on an old transmitter once again. John Peterman AB9G from AES has invited me to turn on the plate switch of the old RCA BTA250M AM rig he purchased from WNOV Radio. It, of course, has many memories from my thirteen years at WFOX (which was sold to WNOV). The old manual has some of my notes in it.

John hopes to move it to 160 meters to work AM. Looking in the storage space I found a 160 meter crystal so we can start with tuning up the oscillator. I'll keep you informed on how we are doing.

A special thanks to Bill Tromblay, son of Jim WB9LNU for machining a new cam assembly for the electric paper folding machine! The folding machine will be used to speed up the mailing of "Hamchatter".

Jim WB9LNU was kind enough to rebuild the machine and its motor assembly to help the Club and make it easier for Jerry WA9SFH. We would also like to thank Ted Stiller WA9RDI who donated the machine to the Club. These are

### active members!

We have a group that plans to go to Dayton - W9MOT, WB9LNU and W9PWG. Between us we should be able to give you some highlights at our April 29th meeting.

The video comes to us via Fred Linn W9NZF and Roger Zahn W9UVV. I have not yet seen it, but it sure sounds interesting.

Our Field Day group is underway and we could have a great setup this year. I hope you plan on coming even if it is for only an hour or two.

That is all for now.

*Ed Wille*

Ed W9PWG  
President



**75  
YEARS**

of  
Continuous  
Club Activity!

**W9RH**

CLUB CALL

**APR-1993**

### OFFICERS

President:	W9PWG
Ed Wille .....	461-5961
1st VP:	W9VQD
Travis Baird .....	352-9642
2nd VP:	W9UVV
Roger Zaun .....	242-4931
Secretary:	W9NZF
Fred Linn .....	377-3280
Treasurer:	WA9ONQ
Ory Stewart .....	527-2663
Board Chairman	WA9RDI
Ted Stiller .....	871-7486
Directors:	
Paul Boese .....	KB9FEM
	466-0697
Pancho Doneis .....	KA9OFA
	344-4694
Tom Fuszard .....	N9MGZ
	278-0587
Bill Jones .....	KF9FA
	781-4565
Catherine Kedney...	KA9MWT
	774-2114
Jack Krause .....	W9JK
	774-6999
Joe Rayome .....	KE9LL
	463-7668

Here's a list of the students in our Ham school at Village at Manor Park (Methodist Manor) and the class of license that they are aspiring to acquire.

### License Class Registration

Name	Lic. Objective	Name	Lic. Objective
Randall E Boren .....	Novice	Gerald W. Roeder (Jerry) ..	Tech.
Richard J. Boren, Sr. ....	Novice	Thomas Sherlowsky .....	Tech.
George Coles .....	Novice	Bob Snitko .....	Tech.
George Dunco - N9OEM ..	Tech.	Bill Tromblay .....	Tech.
Margaret Flood .....	?	James C. Tromblay, Jr. ....	Tech.
Susan Meyers .....	Novice	David J. Vigue .....	Tech.
Angie Palese .....	Novice	Richard Villa - KA9CVL ..	Tech.
Michael J. Plicht .....	?	Pat Wilken .....	Tech.

## MILWAUKEE AREA NET INFORMATION

DAY	TIME	MHZ	ACTIVITY
MON	9:00 PM	146.670	777S Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)
MON	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Net
TUE	9:00 PM	145.130	MAARS Roundtable
WED	8:00 PM	28.365	10-10 International (Milwaukee Ch.)
THU	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Interest Net
THU	9:00 PM	146.910	Computer Net
FRI	9:00 PM	28.400	W9RH on the air MRAC Club Station Net
SAT	9:00 PM	146.910	Saturday Nite Fun Net
SUN	10:00 AM	443.800	FM-38 Link to 146.88 Baraboo SWAP Net
SUN	8:00 PM	28.365	10-10 International (Milwaukee Ch.)
SUN	8:00 PM	146.910	Information Net
SUN	9:00 PM	146.910	Swap Net

The 2 meter frequencies are -600khz offset FM repeaters. FM38 is +5 Mhz offset, tone 114.8 The 10 meter frequencies are upper sideband (USB). If there are additions, changes, or corrections to this list, please contact: Pancho KA9OFA. 344-4694

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### SILENT KEY

**Eddie Wroblewski - N9FHQ**, passed away early in March, 1993.

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### Editor's Note

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Nothing to say except we had a couple of nice notes from a couple of people that some of you might know. They are reprinted in the Letters to the Editor.

I still need more news about what is happening in Ham Radio.

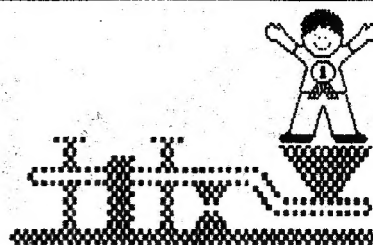
Thanks and 73's

*Pancho*

Pancho - KA9OFA

Incidentally, there is still room in the **Ham classes** at **Village at Manor Park** (Methodist Manor) at 3023 S. 84th St (84th and Oklahoma Ave.) - Wed 7:00-9:00pm, SO, HURRY! **Sign up** for these classes and do it **NOW**.

For more information about **AMATEUR RADIO**,



## FCC HAM RADIO EXAMS

### Wednesday Exams

All Grades MRAC VEC \*  
**Third Wed. of each month at 6:30 pm**  
 Village at Manor Park (was Methodist Manor)  
 3023 S. 84th St.  
 Milwaukee, WI

Walk-ins are welcome, but preregistration is requested if possible. To register in advance, send a post card on which you have printed the grade of license for which you are applying, your name, address and telephone number to:

c/o Jack Krause-W9JK      c/o Les Peterson - W9YCV  
 1737 N. 116th St.      or      9741 W. Howard  
 Wauwatosa, WI 53226      Greenfield, WI 53228

For more information call:  
**466-HAMS**

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### Saturday Exams \*

**Last Saturday of Each Month**  
**at 8:30 am**  
 at Wauwatosa S&L  
 7500 W. State St. Wauwatosa

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### SWAT TEAM Exams \*

**2nd SAT of each month**  
**at 1:00 pm**  
 Next testing April 10, 1993.  
 Wauwatosa S&L  
 6560 S. 27th ST.  
 Oak Creek, WI

Enter the north end of the building,  
 downstairs and follow the signs.

MAY..... 8	SEP.....11
JUN.....12	OCT..... 9
JUL.....10	NOV.....13
DEC.....11	

For more info call:  
 KB9QL - Norman McNew (414) 764-5998  
 or AA9DO - Joe Mettry (414) 761-9219.

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\* **Bring your license (if any) and 2 copies**  
**also the same for CSCE's you may have.**  
**Originals will be returned to you.**  
**\$5.00 charge except for Novice exams.**

## Who was Nikola Tesla?

On November 16, 1896, the newspaper read:

"At midnight last night the turning of a switch in the big power house at Niagara Falls completed a circuit which caused the Niagara River to flow uphill, so to speak, by returning a fraction of its resistless energy which had already swept past the gates of Buffalo, back into that city, 27 miles distant. The harness was buckled, that hitches the factory wheels of Buffalo to the greatest cataract on Earth. This morning the streetcars of this city are moving by falls power..."

An event was occurring that would change the course of history. Electrical power was being transmitted on a large scale over what was then considered an astounding distance of twenty-one miles, from a powerhouse along the river in Niagara Falls, to Buffalo.

Prior to this, electricity (from direct current generators) could be used only in the immediate vicinity of its point of generation. The new powerhouse at Niagara, however, generated alternating current electricity, which could be sent over long distances with very little loss of power. This feat was due in large part to the discoveries of the Yugoslav-American inventor, Nikola Tesla.

Nikola Tesla was born in 1856, in what is now Yugoslavia. While studying at the Technical University at Graz, Austria, he became convinced that alternating current motor was possible, although such a motor was regarded as a naive fantasy by scientists of that time.

Four years later, in 1882, Tesla developed that very same "impossible" motor.

Finding European electric interests unwilling to invest in his motor, Tesla left for the United States in 1884, hoping to find a more receptive climate for his ideas.

When Nikola Tesla emerged from the immigration office in New York City that summer, he had in his possession a letter of introduction for Thomas A. Edison, written by Edison's manager for European operations, for whom Tesla had worked in France. The message was brief: "I know two great men and you are one of them the other is this young man."

Upon meeting with Thomas Edison on the following day, Tesla found himself hired, but with a certain stipulation -- abandon the idea of alternating current. Before long, Tesla left his employment there.

Although Tesla had been with Edison for less than a year, he had established a reputation in the United States. Investors soon formed the Tesla Electric Light Company. Now, Tesla hoped, alternating current could be developed on a commercial scale and electricity made available to the public at large. He knew that his new system of electrical power was the most practical and versatile, and would improve the lives of people by providing a multitude of conveniences and affordable labor-saving devices.

Tesla's investors, on the other hand, didn't concern themselves with that. They wanted a marketable arc light for street lighting and industrial use. Once they had it, they eased Tesla out of the company, his main remuneration being almost worthless stocks. Tesla was now left without a source of income, due to both the depress-

ed economic climate of the time and his reputation as an uncompromising advocate of alternating current.

While working as a ditch digger in 1887, Tesla came to the notice of the gang foreman, who, like Tesla, was forced by economic circumstances to work in a job unrelated to his intellectual abilities. The foreman was so impressed by Tesla's explanations of the capabilities of alternating current that he introduced him to friends who eagerly invested in Tesla's project.

In a very short time, Tesla had assembled all of the apparatus needed to demonstrate his alternating current system. As well as constructing the separate mechanical elements needed to generate AC electricity, Tesla worked out the basic mathematical theory which covered all facets of the system.

At this point, George Westinghouse entered the picture. Westinghouse realized the advantages of Tesla's system, and wasted no time signing a contract with Tesla. When the Westinghouse Company was awarded the contract to light the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, a tremendous opportunity was provided for publicizing the benefits of alternating current. Westinghouse and Tesla were able to create enough of an impression on the scientific and business world that in 1893, the alternating current system was selected for converting the energy of the Falls of Niagara into electricity.

The construction work at the powerhouse brought Tesla to Niagara Falls for the first time in 1896. A reporter who spoke with Tesla described in complimentary tones:

"Tesla is an idealist, and anyone who has created an ideal of him... will not be disappointed in seeing him for the first time. He is fully six feet tall, very dark of complexion, nervous, and wiry. Impressionable maidens would fall in love with him at first sight, but he has no time to think of impressionable maidens..."

On the evening of January 12, 1897, the undisputed highlight of a banquet celebrating the transmission of electricity from Niagara falls to Buffalo was a speech given by Nikola Tesla. Tesla emphasized: "...In the great enterprise at Niagara we see not only a bold engineering and commercial feat, but far more -- a giant stride in the right direction as indicated both by exact science and philanthropy. Its success is a signal for the utilization of water powers all over the world, and its influence upon industrial development is incalculable..."

Nikola Tesla's discoveries did indeed change the world, incalculably.

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Come to the April 29 meeting of M.R.A.C. to  
find out more about Tesla  
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## Standard Phonetics—Purpose and Use

Standard Phonetics - What are they, and what is their purpose?

Well, phonetics are words used to represent letters of the alphabet to make spellings and other literal representations better understood.

Standard Phonetics are those most commonly used (therefore Standardized).

When spelling out words, names, Call Signs, etc., it is more difficult to mistake one letter for another if phonetics are used.

Under poor or noisy conditions, (for example in a callsign, KA90FA) it is possible to mistake an "A", "H", or "J" for a "K" or an "L", "N", or "M", for the letter "F".

By comparison (Kilo-Alpha-Niner-Oscar-Foxtrot-Alpha) is less readily misunderstood. It does take longer to phoneticize a spelling, but in the long run it conserves time (because of reduced repetitions) and is more readily understood.

If Standard Phonetics are used, more people will know what you are trying to say.

After all, most of us are in communications to be understood.

Here is the phonetic alphabet most commonly used for the English language:

A .... Alpha	M .... November
B ..... Bravo	O .... Oscar
C ..... Charlie	P ..... Papa
D ..... Delta	Q ..... Quebec
E ..... Echo	R ..... Romeo
F ..... Foxtrot	S ..... Sierra
G ..... Golf	T ..... Tango
H ..... Hotel	U ..... Uniform
I ..... India	V ..... Victor
J ..... Juliet	W ..... Whiskey
K ..... Kilo	X ..... X-ray
L ..... Lima	Y ..... Yankee
M .... Mike	Z ..... Zulu

Use of Standard Phonetics is just good operating procedure.

*Courtesy is a part of the Amateur Code and a good part of courtesy is in making things easier for the other person.*

Anyone out there  
know where Milwaukee  
got its name?

Check the next Issue of Hamateur Chatter  
for the answer.

### Thanks from Marie Philbert

Mrs. Marie Philbert wishes to extend her thanks to the M.R.A.C. for the floral Bouquet, sent by the club when she was confined in the hospital recently.

### Helper for WA9SFH

Jerry - WA9SFH has a helper with the mailing of the newsletter. It happens to be *WIFE*, better known as the XYL *(HILH)*.

### Masthead design.

Masthead for Hamateur Chatter was Designed by Russ - N9KHE circa 1970-71 (Russ still has the original artwork), while he was assistant editor for Hamateur Chatter and Chet Sekura was the editor. I hear that Chet did most of the editing and typing of text on an IBM Selectric typewriter and Russ did all of the paste-up to get camera-ready copy to be offset printed (most of the time more than four pages).

I Guess that there was more to write about in the good old days. People don't do anything in Ham Radio worthy of writing about any more.

Come on, guys and gals, Ham Radio must worth at least a couple of paragraphs — a reminiscence, a hint or kink, a project, a review of an old or new piece of Ham gear, a description of a Ham activity or Ham shack, an interesting radio contact, an interesting Ham, (the effects of the Aurora Borealis on radio propagation), etc.

W.O.W.

Optimism is an indication  
of a personality flaw caused by  
inattention to the way things  
have been going lately.

## CLUB ACTIVITIES:

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**Y'all come to the  
MRAC HAM BREAKFAST**  
every Saturday morning  
at 8:30 o'clock.

**Maxim's Restaurant**  
9143 W. Appleton Ave.  
(corner of 91st St. and Appleton Ave.  
near Timmerman Field)

Prices are reasonable, the food - good,  
and the company - excellent.

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## W9RH- TEN METER NET

Come on up and join us on W9RH  
Ten Meter Net on Friday evenings at  
9:00 PM at approximately 28.4 MHZ.  
We'd like to meet you there.

(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)

## Friday Evening CQ Food

First Friday of the month Fish fry  
Serp Hall at 51st and Oklahoma  
Call: Warren - K9IZ  
on the 146.91 - offset rptg.  
for reservations by Noon on that FRI.  
Other Fridays, check-in 5:00 pm  
Decision & finalization at 6:00pm and  
meet at CQ Food destination at 7:00pm  
Other CQ Foods called on random basis  
also on WA9JOB  
146.91 Repeater

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## Other Club Meetings

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## West Allis Radio Amateur Club

meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month  
at 8:00 p.m. at St. Peter's  
Episcopal Church  
7929 W. Lincoln Ave.  
West Allis, WI

## Miller Valley Radio Amateur Club

Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.  
at 703 N. 39th St., just north of and  
almost under the former  
Wis. Ave. viaduct.

For info contact: Art - WA9AWJ  
(found daily on the 145.13 repeater).

## WINE & PUG

(Wisconsin Node Enthusiasts  
& Packet Users Group)

## Third Saturday of each month

7:00 pm-9:00 pm  
Mykonos Restaurant  
8501 W. Capitol  
Milwaukee, WI

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## NEWS CONTRIBUTORS

(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)(=)

Articles and information for  
the newsletter should be  
received by the editor **no later  
than the first of the month of  
publication**. If received after  
the first of the month, its  
inclusion in that month's edition  
cannot be guaranteed. Your co-  
operation is appreciated.

Please mail submissions to:

## Hamateur Chatter

c/o Pancho Doneis,  
KA9OFA

1958 N. 38th St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53208

You may also call me at:  
**344-4694.**

Thanks to our news contributors  
this month:

N9KHE KE9JJ W9UVV  
W9GVL W9PWG KI4WV

## LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Pancho:

You asked for news so I guess you can call this  
Charley's Comments. First of all I am the oldest ex-  
president (19th President) of the club still living. I am  
88, 89 in June, so I don't expect to hold that title too  
much longer. After me I think Bill Brossman will take  
over (20th President).

I retired from the Milwaukee Health Dept in 1966.  
My wife died in 1972 after which I joined the senior  
citizens bowling League.

While on the air one day W9HK, a noted DXer,  
called me. I told him I had to go bowling and he ex-  
pressed an interest. We met at the alleys and have been  
close friends ever since.

During the recent storms we had seventy mile an  
hour winds and two inches of snow. First snow in 23  
years. Paul's beam was thrown 45 degrees out of  
phase and he will have some climbing to do. On my  
40 meter loop, the NW rope broke from a limb that  
came crashing down. It is back in operation.

That is all for now.

73,

Chas W9GVL *Chas.*

Pancho,  
March 21, 1993

I read with interest your article saying you needed  
material for the Hamchatter.

I think it might be a nice idea to write a bit about the,  
"Milwaukee -- Florida Net". You may know of it. It  
has been in existence for fifteen or so years. Mel  
WA9PZU, one of your members runs it, and I think  
has from the start. You could talk to Jack, W9JK for  
all the details. Those of us who have moved from  
Milwaukee like the net a lot and consider it our link  
to Milwaukee. I think an article would interest a lot  
of people.

73's

*Chas*  
Gordon Weiler  
KI4WV

+++++

## Safety Tip

When working on electrical things  
it's a good idea to keep  
one hand in your pocket.

\*\*\*\*\* UPCOMING EVENTS \*\*\*\*\*

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**Cedarburg Swapfest**

**SAT - MAY 1, 1993**

Cedarburg, WI

Talk-in on 146.37/97 Rptr.  
and 146.52 simp.

**DeKalb Hamfest**

**SUN - MAY 2, 1993**

Sandwich, IL

Talk-in on 146.13/73 Rptr  
or 146.52

**Lakeshore Hamfest**

**SAT - MAY 8, 1993**

Manitowoc, WI

T/I on 146.61 Simp or 147.03 + Rptr

**CRIS Hamfest**

**SAT - MAY 15, 1993**

Marshalltown, IA

T/I on 146.28/.88 Rptr.

**BigBoy's Toy Show**

**MAY 20, 21, & 22, 1993**

RACINE, WI

**G.M.R.S. of Illinois, Inc.**

**May Fest '93**

**SUN - MAY 23, 1993**

Wheaton, IL

T/I on 146.52 Simp or  
462.600, 467.600, PL 173.8

**Princeton HamFest**

**SUN - JUNE 6, 1993**

Princeton, IL

**Six Meter Club of Chicago,  
Inc. Hamfest**

**SUN - JUN 13, 1993**

Willow Springs, IL

**Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club**

P.O. Box 25707

Milwaukee, WI 53225

Celebrating

**75 Years!**

of Continuous Club Activity.

**THIS MEETING**

**THU - April 29, 1993**

at 7:30 PM

Wauwatosa

Savings and Loan

See Inside

**Next Meeting - May 27<sup>th</sup>**

From now on the mailing label  
will carry:

the date through which  
your dues are paid - (P/93)  
and the date that you joined. - J 6/85.

Hamateur Chatter 6 MAR - 1993

For Information about AMATEUR RADIO or M.R.A.C. call: 466-HAMS.